GOVERNMENT OF ANDHRA PRADESH
ABSTRACT

PR&RD-APSEC- Constitution of a Committee to assess the number of EVMs to be procured with budgetary requirements and for submission of a report for release of necessary funds for procurement of S-3 Model EVMs - Constitution - Orders-Issued.

PANCHAYAT RAJ & RURAL DEVELOPMENT (E&R) DEPARTMENT

G.O.Rt.No.827 Dated:27.11.2023

Read the following:

1. From the State Election Commissioner, Vijayawada, letter e No.206/SEC-F1/2023, Dated:24.09.2023
2. From Commissioner, PR&RD in e file bearing C.No.2228217

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ORDER:

In the letter 1st read above, the State Election Commissioner, Andhra Pradesh has stated that the Election Commission of India decided not to allow its new M-3 Model Electronic Voting Machines for the use of State Election Commissions for conduct of local body elections. Further, the ECI decided to destroy its M-2 Model EVMs, which are of 15 years and older. This necessitated the Standing Committee for the State Election Commissioners to decide to have their own model of EVMs and constituted a Technical Evaluation Committee (TEC) besides couple of meetings with the three EVM manufacturing companies, ECIL, BEL and ITI Limited. The TEC submitted its final report on the proposed S-3 Model EVM for SECs and it was accepted by the Standing Committee of the SECs. The EVM manufacturing companies have brought out the new model S-3 EVMs based on the recommendations of the TEC.

2. The EVMs earlier procured by the State Election Commission of the combined State are designed for 'Single Post' and the inventory presently available in our State is not sufficient to conduct Rural Local Body elections. The new S-3 Model EVMs are designed for 'Multi Post' and, therefore, the number of Control Units can be considerably minimised. Also, if number of polling stations for conduct of election to Ward Members / Sarpanches is reduced, the requirement of EVMs can be reduced.

3. The EVMs proposed to be procured are primarily required for all Local Body elections and more specifically for the Rural Local Body elections as the number of offices in the Rural Local Bodies are considerably high. The State Election Commission is of the opinion that a committee may be constituted by the Govt under the Chairmanship of Spl Chief Secretary to Govt, PR&RD with the Commissioner of Panchayat Raj, the Commissioner & Director of Municipal Administration and the Secretary, APSEC with the objective to assess the number of EVMs to be procured with budgetary requirement and submit a report to the Government for release of necessary funds for procurement of S-3 Model EVMs.

4. The APSEC has requested the Government to issue necessary orders on the constitution of the Committee for this purpose with the above objectives at the earliest.

5. In the efile 2nd read above the Commissioner, PR&RD, A.P. has also requested to take further action on the request of the APSEC in the letter 1st read above.

P.T.O

6. In the circumstances reported in the letter and e-file 1st and 2nd read above, Government after careful examination, hereby constitute the Committee with following officers with the objectives to assess the number of EVMs to be procured with budgetary requirements and to submit a report to the Government for release of necessary funds for procurement of S-3 Model EVMs.

Designation of the officer	Role in the committee
Special Chief Secretary to Government, PR &RD Department	Chairman
Commissioner, PR& RD	Member
Commissioner & Director of Municipal Administration	Member
Secretary, AP State Election Commission	Member /Convener

5. The Secretary, AP State Election Commission shall take necessary action accordingly in the matter.

(BY ORDER AND IN THE NAME OF THE GOVERNOR OF ANDHRA PRADESH)

B RAJSEKHAR
SPECIAL CHIEF SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT

To
The Secretary State Election Commission, A.P. Vijayawada.
The Commissioner, PR&RD, AP Vijayawada
The Commissioner & Director of Municipal Administration
Copy to:
The Accountant General, AP, Vijayawada.
The OSD to Chief Minister
The OSD to Deputy Chief Minister (PR&RD).
The Finance Department.
The PS to Special Chief Secretary to Government, PR&RD.
SF/SC.

//FORWARDED:: BY:: ORDER//

SECTION OFFICER